

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 TEL AV 10063 111705Z

43

ACTION SS-20

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 NEA-10 ISO-00 SSO-00 A-01 NSC-10 NSCE-00

SY-10 CPR-02 USSS-00 CCO-00 DRC-01 RSC-01 /081 W
----- 097954

O R 111420Z DEC 73

FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 843

INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE

/AMCONSUL JERUSALEM 5205

AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEL AVIV 10063

BRUSSELS AND LONDON FOR SECRETARY'S PARTY

1. WE ARE HAVEING PROBLEMS WITH ISRALIS ON TRANSPORTATION FROM AIRPORT TO JERUSALEM. WE HAVE SUGGESTED TO ISRAELIS THAT, SINCE THIS IS WORKING VISIT AND TIME IS TIGHT, WE PLAN USE HOUR DRIVE FROM AIRPORT TO JERUSALEM FOR DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN MEMBERS OF SECRETARY'S PARTY AND EMBASSY ESCORT OFFICERS. IN THIS RESPECT, I BELIEVE DISCUSSION BETWEEN SECRETARY AND MYSELF WITH NO ISRAELIS PRESENT IS HIGHLY DESIRABLE PRIOR TO SECRETARY'S MEETING WITH MRS. MEIR. ISRAELIS MAINTAIN THAT NORMAL PROTOCOL DICTATES THAT MEMBERS OF MFA GREETING PARTY ACCOMPANY VISITORS OF COMPARABLE RANK IN THEIR CARS FROM AIRPORT TO JERUSALEM. MFA TELLS US EBAN IS PARTICULARLY INSISTENT ON RIDING IN CAR WITH SECRETARY. LIKELY ISRAELI GREETING PARTY WILL BE EBAN, EVRON, ASSTDIRGEN, MFA; DAFNI, NEW DIR NOAMNDIV, MFA; SENIOR PRESS OFFICER; YARDEN, DEPDIR NOAMNDIV; AND ONE OR TWO OTHERS.

2. IF WE AGREE TO ISRAELI POSITION THERE WILL BE NO OPPORTUNITY WHATSOEVER FOR IN-HOUSE DISCUSSIONS DURING DRIVE FROM AIRPORT. SECRETARY WILL RECALL SIMILAR SITUATION WHEN EBAN JUMPED INTO MY CAR AT AIRPORT DURING OCT 22 VISIT. SHOULD SECRETARY DECIDE SKIP MEETING PRESS AT AIRPORT AND GO TO HOTEL (PARA 3 BELOW), WE COULD USE THAT TIME FOR PAIVATE DISCUSSION. WOULD APPRECIATE SECRETARY'S VIEWS.

CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 02 TEL AV 10063 111705Z

3. GOI LOOKS UPON SCHEDULE BETWEEN 1550 ARRIVAL AND 1730 MEETING DEC 16 WITH PRIMIN AS FLEXIBLE. IF SECRETARY WISHES PROCEED DIRECTLY FROM PLANE, PRIMIN CAN BEGIN MEETINGS AS EARLY AS 1700. IF SECRETARY WISHES MEET WITH PRESS IN ADDITION TO DELIVERING STATEMENT AT PLANESIDE, HE WOULD HAVE ABOUT 35 MINUTES FOR THIS PURPOSE. IF SECRETARY WISHES PROCEED BRIEFLY TO HOTEL TO FRESHEN UP, HE COULD HAVE ABOUT 20 MINUTES THERE. REQUEST COMMENTS ON SECRETARY'S WISHES.

4. ISRAELIS HAVE QUERIED US AS TO LOCATION OF PRINCIPAL SUPPORTING STAFF DURING TIME SECRETARY WILL BE MEETING ALONE WITH PRIMIN. I BELIEVE IT WOULD BE MORE CONVENIENT TO SECRETARY IF US AND ISRAELI PRINCIPAL ASSISTANTS WERE IN PLACE AT PRIMIN'S OFFICE SO WE COULD GO INTO LARGER MEETING WHEN SECRETARY WISHES WITH NO DELAYS. PLEASE ADVISE.

5. WE ARE AWAITING YOUR GUIDANCE ON DEC 17 MEETINGS WITH KNESSET COMMITTEE (TEL AVIV 9981) AND PRESS (TEL AVIV 10022). KEATING

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